(*b*) whether the Government have spent any amount for starting Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in any district and if so, in what districts ; and how much ?

A.—(*a*) A statement [a] showing the information is laid on the table.

(*b*) No. But the Government propose to give grants to the Health and Welfare Association, Tellicherry, and the Health Week and Maternity Ward Committee, Arkonam, towards the cost of constructing maternity wards. The request of the District Health Association, Trichinopoly, for a grant for the construction of a building is under the consideration of the Government.

[*Note.*—**An asterick (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II

ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE USE OF STEEL WINDOWS AND DOORS FOR POLICE QUARTERS.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Before the Council passes to the next item, I have to state that two notice papers have been received by me, both from Mr. Satyamurti. The first is notice of an adjournment motion regarding the use of steel windows and doors for police quarters. The hon. Member is aware, I think, that under rule 12 he has to obtain the consent of the President before he can ask for leave to make an adjournment motion. No application for such consent has been made to me, and I insist upon previous consent being taken. Without such consent, I cannot permit any hon. Member to move an adjournment motion. That is the first point.

" Even supposing that this notice is itself an application for such consent, during budget debates when there is every opportunity for hon. Members to discuss such matters, I do not propose to give such consent."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire, Sir, whether as a result of these questions now put and answered an application cannot arise ? I want to know how, in the case of unsatisfactory answers given now, the previous consent of the President can be obtained."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Previous consent, as I said, must be there before the motion for leave is made. No application was made for my consent before this notice of motion for leave was handed to me. That is the technical objection I have raised. I insist upon previous consent being taken."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" This is the first time I hear, Sir, about an application."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know when and how we can ask for this consent ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The point is this. The hon. Member can apply to the President by means of a letter for consent being given."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" When there is hardly time for it, Sir ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is my ruling."

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 310 infra.

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* Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" I raise another point. We have been told to send our cuts by a certain date, and we cannot send any other cuts now."

* The hon. the President :—" The President has got the right to admit any motion."

* Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Will you do it ? That is what I want to know."

III

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE COMMITTEES.

* The hon. the President :—" I have to announce that as a result of the elections held yesterday, the following hon. Members have been declared duly elected to the Public Accounts Committee and the Finance Committee

(1) the Public Accounts Committee : Mr. P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai, Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar, Mr. F. E. James, Zamindar of Singampatti, Mr. A. Parasurama Rao, Mr. K. Uppi Sahib and Mr. P. C. Venkatapati Raju, and

(2) the Finance Committee : Dr. B. S. Mallayya, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur, Mr. H. F. P. Hearson and Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar."

IV

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1929-30.

DEMAND VII—CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT.

The House then resumed discussion of the motion of Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar on the Mettur project.

* Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar :—" Sir, I was speaking about the poor yield. Some critics have pointed out—and among them officers of the Agricultural department—that this is due to the deterioration of the soil. I think this deterioration is not a quality inherent in the soil of Tanjore, but it is largely due to the fact that we have no regular silt deposits as of yore and, secondly, want of green manure in sufficient quantities and precarious supply of water. I have already spoken of the system of morai which was objected to by both Mr. Wickkam and Mr. Morin, but which has been, and will continue to be, the practice for the reason that, as the Cauvery Committee pointed out, the supply throughout the irrigation season is extremely unsteady, that the average irrigation supply varies incessantly to an extent which is unknown on large canal systems elsewhere in India and without a storage reservoir of great capacity, the floods in the river could not be stored. These are the defects which the Cauvery-Mettur project seeks to remedy. This project has long been overdue. Even now, many are sceptical about the supply being adequate not only for first and second crops throughout the deltaic portion but also for over 150,000 acres to be brought under cultivation. 11-45 a.m.

" My Friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar rightly stressed the need for economy, especially in connexion with works, the estimates whereof have a tendency to mount upwards every time there is a fresh revision. My point is that true economy would lie in expediting the completion of the